

Docket No.: 1519-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Bruce Archibald SHORT

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/987,772

Filed: November 15, 2001

For: CONNECTION APPARATUS

Confirmation No. 7879

Group Art Unit: 3671

Examiner: Thomas A. Beach

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of the Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

A credit card authorization form in the amount of \$180.00 is attached. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 07-1337.

Respectfully submitted,

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Int. National Application No.

PCT/NZ 00/00073

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 E02F3/36

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 E02F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 88 02421 A (ESSEX STUART ALEXANDER ; ESSEX WENDY PAMELA (AU)) 7 April 1988 (1988-04-07) page 2, line 16 - line 19 page 2, line 37 - page 3, line 6 figure 2	1-3, 5, 13, 14
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	-/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.*** Special categories of cited documents:**

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

22 August 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

31/08/2000

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 Int'l Application No
 PCT/NZ 00/00073

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